

STATE OF COLORADO
Department of State

1700 Broadway
Suite 270
Denver, CO 80290



Mike Coffman
Secretary of State

Holly Z. Lowder
Director, Elections Division

July 24, 2008

The Honorable Kay Weinland
Routt County Clerk & Recorder
522 Lincoln Avenue
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487-3598

RE: Request for Removal from the Election Watch List

Dear Clerk Weinland:

I am in receipt of the letter from you requesting removal of Routt County from the Secretary of State's Election Watch List. In response to this request, my office conducted an onsite visit and requested submission of documentation demonstrating remediation of the previously identified deficiencies.

On April 3, 2007, you were notified of Routt County's placement on the Election Watch List. The deficiencies described in the notification involved excessive wait times for voters during the November 7, 2006 General Election, based on a miscalculation of the number of voting machines needed for vote centers and miscalculation of the allocation of machines among locations.

During the course of 2007 and thus far in 2008, you have consistently provided this office with updates to changes to your election process. Furthermore, Department of State staff visited your county in May 2008 and documented the progress made by you and your staff.

Prior to this visit you provided documentation detailing the following:

- A plan for ensuring acceptable wait times for voters to include a return to precinct-based polling locations, the addition of two polling locations in the Steamboat Springs area, and making paper ballots available at each polling location;
- On-site vendor technical support dedicated solely to Routt County, as well as on-call county Information System support on Election Day; and
- Communication procedures to ensure contact with county employees in the event of an emergency or technological issue.

Based upon the observations of Department of State staff as well as the documentation provided by Routt County, I am pleased and impressed with the work of you and your staff. I find that all deficiencies have been remedied and hereby remove Routt County from the Election Watch List.

The voters of your county should have the upmost respect for you and confidence in the elections held in your county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Coffman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Coffman
Secretary of State